Illinois State Board of Education

Swearing in of Chairman Gery J. Chico
June 16, 2011
8:15 a.m.

Board Operations Committee of the Whole
June 16, 2011
8:15 a.m.
(This meeting will begin immediately following the swearing-in ceremony.)

All open meetings will be audio cast on the Internet at: www.isbe.net

AGENDA (timeframes are estimated for planning purposes)

I. Roll Call

II. Board Member Participation by Other Means

III. Public Participation

IV. Minutes of the May Board Operations Committee of the Whole (p. 2)

V. Review Nominations for Recognition (p. 3)

VI. Board Evaluation Instrument (Superintendent Koch) 8:15 – 8:25 a.m. (pp. 4-9)

VII. Retreat Planning (Superintendent Koch) 8:25 – 8:35 a.m. (pp. 10-11)

VIII. NASBE Membership Dues (Jean Ladage) 8:35 – 8:40 a.m. (pp. 12-15)

IX. 2012 Board Calendar – preliminary look (Jean Ladage) 8:40 – 8:45 a.m. (pp. 16-17)

X. Committee Agenda Planning/Additional Items (no committee meetings until October)

XI. Motion for Closed Session

XII. Adjourn

* Items listed with an asterisk (*) will be discussed in committee and action may be taken in the plenary session.

CLOSED SESSION
8:45 – 9:30 a.m.
I. ROLL CALL: Dr. Ward called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m. and asked for a Roll Call. (See roll call above.)

II. BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION BY OTHER MEANS: None.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Erin Shiffer, candidate for Illinois teaching certificate. Ms. Shiffer explained that he has a Masters degree in Elementary Education from Texas State University and she holds a valid Texas teaching certificate. Prior to applying for Texas certification, she had four years of teaching experience within private schools. Although unusual, TSU felt that private teaching experience surpassed any benefit of a semester of student teaching. She has applied for Illinois certification, but has been told that she must have student teaching on her transcript or return to Texas for one year to teach in a public school. She stated that she knows that she is a well educated, highly qualified, passionate teacher and would be an asset to the Illinois education system. She indicated that she had asked UIS to review of her program and they agreed that she was as qualified as the Illinois program, but would not allow her to complete a student teaching component without taking their entire undergraduate degree. Ms. Shiffer asked if there is anything this Board can do to allow her an opportunity to become Illinois certified and return to the classroom. Ms. Tomlinson indicated she would have staff look at her review and they will be in communication with her.

The Board thanked her for coming before them.

IV. REVIEW NEW NOMINATIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS OF RECOGNITION: It was agreed that the resolution recognizing the winners of the Digital Safety Contest; Rich Myers, LaSalle County Regional Superintendent and Ken Maurer, Metamora Township High School Superintendent be considered for adoption during plenary session.

Dr. Ward also recommended that the resolution for Board Chairman Jesse Ruiz be considered for adoption. Dr. Ward read the resolution into the record and the Board will officially act upon the resolution during plenary. Mr. Ruiz thanked the Board and indicated he would make further comments a little later.

V. BOARD OPERATIONS – FISCAL YEAR TO DATE: Robert Wolfe indicated that there is still a 26% reduction in Board member expenditures from July through April for Fiscal Year 2011 as compared to Fiscal Year 2010.

VI. ADJOURN: Mr. Ruiz moved that the Board Operations Committee Meeting of the Whole be adjourned. Dr. Hall seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.
TO: Illinois State Board of Education

FROM: Chris Ward, Chair, Board Operations Committee
      Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Materials: Nomination(s)

Agenda Topic: Review Nominations for Board Recognition

Purpose of Agenda Item
To review incoming nominations received since the last Board meeting. Nomination materials that are received will be sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Relationship to/Implications for the State Board’s Strategic Plan
This item has no direct relationship to the Strategic Plan. The State Board’s Recognition Program was developed to show the Board’s support for the outstanding work of educators, staff and school boards that are serving all children in this state.

Expected Outcome(s) of Agenda Item
Recommendation of Board action.

Background Information
In May, 2005, the Board initiated a Board Recognition Program to become more proactive in its efforts to recognize the exemplary achievements of students, teachers, school administrators, and local board members in Illinois. Upon review and acceptance, the State Board of Education will pass a resolution describing the particulars of the achievement. The signed resolutions will be presented in one of the following three ways:

- mailed to the recipient(s);
- personally awarded to the individual(s) at their respective school(s); or
- presented to recipient(s) during the State Board meeting at which their resolution is approved

Superintendent’s Recommendation
No recommendation from the Superintendent.

Next Steps
Board Operations Committee will review the nominations received and make a recommendation based on that review.
TO: Illinois State Board of Education  
FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education

Materials: Draft Questionnaire for Education Stakeholders for Purposes of State Board Self-Evaluation

Agenda Topic: 2011 Board Self-Evaluation

Purpose of Agenda Item
The purpose of this agenda item is to prepare for the 2011 Board Self-Evaluation to take place during the Annual Strategic Planning Session in September.

Expected Outcomes
Board members will provide further direction for the stakeholder questionnaire component of the Board’s Self-Evaluation.

Background
As State Board members are aware, Gene Wilhoit (Executive Director of the Council of Chief State School Officers) has assisted the Board in its self-evaluation process over the past few years and is intending to do so again this year. In advance of the self-evaluation, education stakeholders are asked to complete a questionnaire regarding their respective perception of the State Board, its priorities and its role within the education community. The State Superintendent and Senior Staff have taken a fresh look at the stakeholder questionnaire and are bringing a draft working document to the Board for discussion in June.

Expected Outcome
The Board will provide direction to the State Superintendent regarding information desired from the education stakeholders.

Next Steps
Staff will refine the questionnaire, distribute it to the education stakeholders for completion and seek to obtain responses from the stakeholders in advance of September’s Annual Strategic Planning Session.
DRAFT DOCUMENT

Stakeholder Audience

Dr. Brent Clark, Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA)
Mike Johnson, Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB)
Dan Montgomery, Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT)
Audrey Soglin, Illinois Education Association (IEA)
Jason Leahy, Illinois Principals Association (IPA)
Michael A. Jacoby, Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO)
Gil Morrison, Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools (IARSS)
Jimmy Gunnell, Illinois Alliance of Administrators of Special Education (IAASE)
Erika Lindley, ED-RED
Diane Rutledge, Large Unit District Association (LUDA)
Peg Agnos, LEND; SCOPE
Robin Steans, Advance Illinois

Suggested Questions for Survey

A. Does your organization regularly attend meetings of the State Board of Education?

If not, why not? If so, what if anything do you believe can make the meetings more beneficial to your organizations?

B. The State Board and Agency have focused their reform agenda on four interrelated areas. Please address the following questions with respect to each:

1. Standards and Assessment:
   a. What involvement has your organization had to date with respect to the rollout of the Common Core Standards?

How can your organization assist with respect to such rollout and implementation?

What has your organization done thus far to highlight the Common Core with your members? (Have you hosted meetings/presentations on the topic, written newsletter articles, shared websites related to the development/roll out or conducted your own research?)
b. Do you feel your organization has sufficient information regarding the State’s involvement in the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)?

   ____ Yes    ____ No

If not, in what ways do you believe the State Board can be helpful?

Please share with us PARCC related questions you have received from your members.

2. **Longitudinal Data System:**
   a. Do you have any concerns with respect to State Board data systems, such as the Student Information System and IWAS?

      ____ Yes    ____ No

      If so, please be specific as to those concerns.

   b. In what ways do you believe your organization would benefit from a fully implemented longitudinal data system?

      ______________________________________________________________
      ______________________________________________________________
3. Teachers and School Leaders:
   a. The Performance Evaluation Advisory Council (PEAC) was established in law to implement the Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA). What is your assessment of the progress the PEAC has made since its formation?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   What suggestions do you have to further facilitate the PEAC’s work?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   b. This past legislation session saw the passage of Senate Bill 7. How can the State Board of Education and/or Agency staff be helpful in terms of implementation of Senate Bill?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

4. Intervening in Low-Performing Schools:
   a. What does your organization see as the most significant impediment to the improvement of the State’s lowest-performing schools?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   What do you believe your organization can do to help overcome that impediment?

   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

   b. The State Board of Education has, within the past year, entered into oversight agreements with North Chicago School District #187 and East St. Louis School District # 189. As a result of these agreements, the State Board effectively controls all fiscal, contracting and personnel decisions of the districts. Do you agree with the State Board’s decision to
enter into such agreements?

____ Yes  ____ No

If not, why not? If so, how can your organization assist the State Board with respect to these and potentially other similar interventions?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

In addition to the four reform areas detailed above, the State Board and Agency are also interested in your organization’s perspective with regard to the following:

C. School Funding:

1. Has your organization taken a position on ways to improve upon the statutory funding formula for General State Aid or the allocation of other State programs?

____ Yes  ____ No

If so, please specify? If not, why not?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

2. The General Assembly just passed legislation to repeal the General State Aid hold-harmless provisions. Do you feel the General Assembly should take similar action to repeal the Property Tax Limitation Law adjustments contained in statute?

____ Yes  ____ No

If not, why not?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

D. Consolidation:

1. The State Board of Education is concerned about the limitation of student opportunities in some districts, such as a district that has limited offerings of Advanced Placement classes, or even has trouble maintaining a math teacher. Also, the State Board has concerns about a lack of coordination between
elementary feeder districts and high school districts. One potential solution to encourage voluntary consolidations would be to modify the tax rate over time so that a financial disincentive within the school code is addressed *(include proposal language from Deb Vespa).*

Would your organization support this change?

_____ Yes  _____ No

Further Comment:

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

2. The Instructional Mandate Task Force included two recommendations regarding P.E. and Behind the Wheel driving *(List what they are – likely reinstatement of the simulated driving and not sure with P.E.)*.

What is your organization’s position with regard to these recommendations and what course of action would you recommend ISBE take in response?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

E. Longer School Day/Year:

1. Do you believe that required number of instructional days in the School Code is sufficient? *(include current statute language.)*

_____ Yes  _____ No

If not, what do you suggest as the optimal number of instructional days/hours and why?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________
TO: Illinois State Board of Education
FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Materials: Draft Agenda Plan
Agenda Topic: 2011 Board Annual Strategic Planning Session (retreat)

Purpose of Agenda Item
The purpose of this agenda item is to prepare for the 2011 Annual Strategic Planning Session.

Expected Outcomes
Board members and the Superintendent will touch base regarding plans.

Background
Arrangements are being made for the Annual Strategic Planning Session to be held in Bloomington on September 27-28, 2011. Gene Wilhoit’s participation has been requested.

Superintendent’s Recommendation
This is a discussion item – no action needed.

Next Steps
Staff will refine the agenda and prepare preliminary materials.
DRAFT AGENDA PLAN

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
A. Roll Call

B. Closed Session: Board Self Evaluation

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Reconvene

C. Data Review & Strategic Plan Development Update (Superintendent Koch and Senior Staff)
   1. Discussion of 2010-11 Strategies & Accomplishments Aligned to Board Goals
   2. Discussion Item: General State Aid Formula

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Reconvene/Roll Call

C. Continue Discussion: Data Review & Strategic Plan Development Update (Superintendent Koch and Senior Staff)
   1. General State Aid Formula
   2. 2012 Legislative Proposals

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

D. Plenary Session

E. Adjourn
TO: Illinois State Board of Education
FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education

Agenda Topic: National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Dues – Membership Renewal

Materials NASBE Membership Information

Purpose of Agenda Item
To consider authorization of membership renewal in NASBE for FY12.

Background
Each Spring NASBE invites all 50 states to renew their membership in the association for the coming year.

The Board Services Office has received a copy of the NASBE invoice for the 2012 Association dues. Again this year, as part of the dues, NASBE is offering all member boards the option of establishing an account for the explicit purpose of state board professional development. This professional development account is a way of helping members access the professional development critical to success. The account will be managed by NASBE (with the approval of the Illinois Board Services Coordinator) and will be accessed to support travel, registration and other costs as necessary. If money is left over at the end of the year, it will be rolled over into the new fiscal year. State Boards may opt to enter into whatever level of membership they prefer. They may choose to decline the professional development fund, or they may select from three levels of professional development funds.

For the past several years, the Board has opted to include and additional $2,500 for board member professional development in the dues payment. If the Board decides to include this amount again for 2012, the total 2012 dues payment would be $49,869. Over the last two years, approximately $600 has been carried over from the previous year, indicating that this amount has adequately supported our Illinois members.

In brief, general NASBE membership includes:

- Study Groups that allow members to explore in-depth critical education issues and develop recommendations for policymakers across the nation;
- Convening opportunities for State Board Members such as the Annual Conference, Legislative Conference and Topical Conferences;
- Participation in the New State Board Member’s Institute with the cost of two new board members' travel and living expenses covered by NASBE;
- Competitive grants for Board initiatives in targeted areas;
- Affiliate membership for State Education Agency staff in the National Council of State Board of Education Executives (NCSBEE) and the National Council of State Education...
Attorneys (NCOSEA). NCSBEE is the national organization serving individuals who provide administrative and other support to state boards of education. Because their positions are unique in the state education agency, executives find communication and joint professional development activities with their counterparts in other states very helpful. NCOSEA provides a forum for SEA attorneys to study and exchange information on legal issues of concern to state education policymakers and serves as a valuable NASBE communications link by identifying emerging legal issues, disseminating information to state board members and state education attorneys, and providing data on state and federal education litigation.

- A subscription to the State Education Standard;
- NASBE resource information binder, including education research and analysis, federal legislative updates, tips on effective policymaking, coverage of education reform across the nation, and other vital documents;
- All NASBE publications for the membership year, including three to four single topic reports based on in-depth research with recommendations for action;
- Access to “Education Policy Central” NASBE’s expansive clearinghouse of educational resources, including power point presentations, policy recommendations, reports and research data, available through the “Members Only” section of the website.
- Representation of State Board views and priorities in Congress and to the Executive Branch;
- Technical assistance and field services for Board retreats and workshops;
- Public relations support and services for State Boards.

**Recommended Motion:**
For the past several years, the Board Operations Committee has recommended the following motion be adopted.

The State Board of Education authorizes renewal of NASBE membership for 2012, including the middle-range professional development account for use by Illinois members.

**Next Steps**
Upon Board approval staff will process dues payment at the beginning of the fiscal year.
May 20, 2011

Mr. Jesse Ruiz
Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP
191 N. Wacker Dr., #3700
Chicago, IL 60606-1698

Dear Jesse:

Your State Board Executive has been sent the 2012 NASBE dues invoice. For most of us, these are among the most challenging economic times in our lives. As individuals and institutions evaluate how to allocate limited resources, NASBE is also assessing how we can best serve our members in a climate of diminishing resources and state budget shortfalls. We recognize that NASBE dues may seem like an unessential expenditure to some during these difficult times, but linking all State Boards throughout the country has never been more essential.

For a modest investment, your State Board has an extended staff of some of the most outstanding professionals in the field of education. They work diligently to provide each Board and Board member with the best possible professional development and up to date information to help them in their important work on behalf of our nation’s students; work that grows more complex every day. Common core standards, high school redesign, student health and wellness, and the reauthorization of the elementary and secondary education act are only a few of the issues we focus on daily with a special concentration on State Board policy. NASBE provides unmatched convening and collaboration for State Board members and we connect our members to political and educational leaders from around the country.

NASBE provides in-state support to Boards, issue based work sessions and grants to states working on a range of issues. We are expanding our technology so that you and your colleagues will be connected to NASBE through electronic convenings. Our publications have been sited by experts throughout the country as “must reads” for state education policymakers. Your membership in NASBE is more valuable and more cost effective than ever before.

In order to help NASBE help Boards in these difficult times the NASBE Board of Directors made an important decision regarding the 2012 dues. The Board recommended that the dues invoices include the professional development line-item to assist Boards in their NASBE sponsored professional development. If you do not wish to have this line item included in your payment, there is a form to opt out of this service.
Public education in the United States is on the brink of tremendous transformation. NASBE and its members are core to that transformation and we need every Board at the table and involved to ensure that this transformation works for every student. We look forward to our continued work together and wish you every success on behalf of America’s school children.

Sincerely,

Brenda Lilienthal Welburn
Executive Director

Cc: State Board of Education Executive Ms. Jean Ladage
ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
June 15-16, 2011

TO: Board Operations Committee of the Whole

FROM: Christopher A. Koch, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Education
Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Agenda Topic: 2012 Board Calendar Development

Materials: Working Document - 2012 Calendar

Staff Contact(s): Jean Ladage, Board Services Coordinator

Purpose of Agenda Item
To review and discuss 2012 dates and locations of State Board of Education meetings.

Relationship to/Implications for the State Board’s Strategic Plan
Action at meetings of the State Board of Education allows for the implementation of the Board’s Strategic Plan.

Expected Outcomes
The Board will discuss this proposed agenda and it will be brought back for action at the next meeting.

Background Information
In following the precedent set in 2010, we are proposing that during the months of February, April and November, a date be held for a one-day meeting, as needed.

The Board will discuss the following meeting dates as well as locations for 2012.

PROPOSED 2012 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 25-26</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>one-day meeting via video-conference (as needed)</td>
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<td>March 21-22</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>one-day meeting via video-conference (as needed)</td>
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<td>May 16-17</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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<td>June 20-21</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>one-day meeting via video-conference (as needed)</td>
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<td>September 19-20</td>
<td>Board Strategic Planning Session - Bloomington</td>
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<td>October 11-13</td>
<td>National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Meeting - Chicago</td>
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<td>Several members may attend.</td>
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<td>October 25-26</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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<td>or October 29-30 (staff preferred for materials preparation following NASBE meeting.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>one-day meeting via video-conference (as needed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 12-13</td>
<td>Springfield</td>
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**Recommended Motion**
No motion at this time.

**Next Steps**
Following Board discussion, staff will make recommended changes and bring the 2011 calendar back for approval in June.